



THE KNOX SCHOOL

English 8 2020 Summer Assignment *Dystopian Young Adult Book Choice*

Assignment: Following the end of the 2020 school year's topic of dystopian short stories, you will be reading **one full-length dystopian novel** and writing a short essay. **Choose ONE book** from the list below, read it over the summer, and compose an essay following the guidelines. **Choose a book you have not read before.**

1. ***The Hunger Games* - Suzanne Collins**

- A world split into 12 "districts" all specializing in a specific task, kept in line due to a fearful government known as "The Capital". Once a year, 24 kids between ages 12-17 are picked to fight to the death with only one remaining. When Katniss volunteers to fight in her sister's place, she is the spark of a revolution.

2. ***Divergent* - Veronica Roth**

- Being different is dangerous! Every person in this society can only have one attribute/personality. After taking a test to determine which one you are, you must decide to leave your family behind to start a new life or remain where you grew up. Tris Prior takes the test and gets 3 results, labeling her the outcast term of "divergent." She must blend in to survive, or overthrow an unjust government.

3. ***Legend* - Marie Lu**

- Born on two different sides of society, one rich and one poor, Day and June have nothing in common. June is the daughter of a rich and powerful figure in society, and she is being trained to join the great honor of the military. Day is a criminal. Their paths would never cross. That is, until June's brother is murdered, and Day becomes the prime suspect.

4. ***Proxy* - Alexander London**

- Split between the rich and the poor, connected by technology. Thanks to the proxy system, the rich can be paired with a poorer person to suffer all their consequences for them. When Knox makes a mistake, Syd, his proxy, has to pay for it. What happens when Knox crashes a car and accidentally kills someone? Knox and Syd suddenly realize they have more in common than they thought as they are on the run from the government, uncovering unknown secrets and rebelling against their society, realizing some debts cannot be repaid.

*Note: All these books have sequels if you need extra summer reading! :)

Essay Guidelines:

1. Proper MLA Format (including header and works cited page)
2. 12 pt Times New Roman font; 1 inch margins; double spaced
3. Avoid using words like “Me”, “My”, “I”
4. Include a strong thesis that responds to the prompt and can be proven with evidence in your body paragraphs.
5. Incorporate textual evidence to support your thesis
6. Avoid summarizing the novel. Be sure to ANALYZE

Due Date: First day of school! BE PREPARED TO SHARE IT WITH YOUR TEACHER AND CLASSMATES!

All late assignments will be subjected to a grade reduction or penalty, as outlined in the course syllabus and copied below:

English Department Late Work Policy:

“All essays and projects are expected to be submitted on or before the due date. Essays not submitted on time will be subjected to a 10% deduction of max points per day. No essays will be accepted after five (5) days.”